New tourism policy

†3085. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take necessary steps for making a new Tourism Policy for proper presentation of Indian culture and heritage;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The latest Tourism Policy of the Government was formulated in 2002 after detailed interactions with the industry associations, concerned Ministries & Departments of Central Government, State Governments and other stakeholders. The policy, *inter-alia*, aims to create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilization, heritage and culture in partnership with States, private sector and other agencies. At present, there is no proposal before the Government to bring out a new tourism policy.

Helicopter service between Madurai and Kodaikanal

3086. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce helicopter service between Madurai and Kodaikanal to improve tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Helicopter services are provided by Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. and other private companies on commercial basis depending on market demand for such services.

Tourism projects in the country

3087. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently reviewed the performance/progress of ongoing tourism projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years in terms of physical and financial targets set and achieved, State-wise;

(c) the details of fresh proposals sent by State Governments;

(d) by when the proposals are likely to be given approval; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.